



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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1948-49 DUCK STAMP SALES BREAK RECORD

The record-breaking sale of 2,127,598 Federal "duck stamps" -- the last of the \$1 series -- to sportsmen, conservationists, and philatelists for the period July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949 was reported today by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior. This figure has just been released to the Service by the Post Office Department, which sells the stamps.

The previous record was the 1946-47 season, when 2,016,819 duck stamps were sold. Last season the sale was 1,722,677. These figures are all sharply contrasted with the sale of 635,001 in 1935-36, and 448,204 in 1936-37 -- the first and second hunting seasons the stamps were sold.

The largest sale in any state this last fiscal year was 171,388 in California. Texas moved to second place with 164,075 sales. Minnesota, which in the last two years had held first place, was third with 162,300.

Other states in the first ten line-up were Illinois (110,980), Wisconsin (101,842), Michigan (83,582), Louisiana (80,701), Washington (74,555), Missouri (69,269), and New York (66,809).

Every hunter of migratory birds who is 16 years of age or older must have on his person a duck stamp of current issue with his signature in ink across its face. Many duck stamps are also purchased yearly by stamp collectors. Last season the Post Office Department's philatelic agency alone sold 11,257 stamps. The revenue from the sale of duck stamps helps finance the Federal government's administration of the national wildlife refuge and law enforcement programs.

Duck stamps formerly cost hunters \$1. This year's duck stamps (which are now on sale in Post Offices throughout the country) cost \$2 each. The increase in price for duck stamps was authorized by Congress this year with the passage of the Johnson-Thompson Duck Stamp Bill. The additional money obtained from the increased price will help offset rising costs encountered by the Fish and Wildlife Service in its important work on the conservation of waterfowl.

Sales of duck stamps for last season at post offices in the 48 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico follow in alphabetical order.

Alabama (12,595), Alaska (4,881), Arizona (8,562), Arkansas (60,758), California (171,388), Colorado (41,407), Connecticut (7,699), Delaware (4,823), District of Columbia (1,361), Florida (22,916).

Georgia (5,018), Hawaii (43), Idaho (47,575), Illinois (110,980), Indiana (35,574), Iowa (63,805), Kansas (53,094), Kentucky (7,712), Louisiana (80,701).

Maine (12,142), Maryland (15,418), Massachusetts (19,370), Michigan (83,582), Minnesota (162,300), Mississippi (20,507), Missouri (69,269), Montana (36,040).

Nebraska (64,991), Nevada (10,574), New Hampshire (3,656), New Jersey (17,649), New Mexico (9,010), New York (66,809), North Carolina (15,749), North Dakota (53,936).

Ohio (39,176), Oklahoma (55,625), Oregon (65,947), Pennsylvania (47,389), Puerto Rico (186), Rhode Island (2,564), South Carolina (9,797), South Dakota (62,509).

Tennessee (25,746), Texas (164,075), Utah (34,558), Vermont (3,865), Virginia (13,293), Washington (74,555), West Virginia (1,859), Wisconsin (101,842) and Wyoming (11,461).

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